Government of India has consistently supported a peaceful, political settlement of the ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka within the framework of Sri Lanka's unity, territorial integrity and sovereignty in a manner that meet the aspirations of all elements in Sri lankan society.

All party team to Bangladesh

1974. SHRI P.N. SIVA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an all Party team is likely to visit Bangladesh to get a first hand account of the alleged atrocities being committed on the Hindus as reported in the 'Hindu' dated December 6, 2001; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) A parliamentary delegation may visit Bangladesh at a mutually convenient time.

Discussion on Border Dispute with Chinese Premier

1975. SHRIMATI GURCHARAN KAUR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the recent visit of the Chinese Prime Minister to India efforts were made to get clarified the position with regard to 4056 kms. Sino-Indian border disputes;

(b) if so, the details thereof together with the reaction thereon; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) to (c) India and China seek a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable settlement of the boundary question through peaceful consultations. We signed an agreement on the Maintenance of Peace and Tranquility

along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China border areas in 1993 and a second agreement on Confidence Building Measures in the Military Field along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China border areas in 1996. These two agreements provide an institutional framework for the Maintenance of Peace and Tranquility in the border areas.

During the recent visit of Chinese Premier Zhu Rongji to India in January 2002, both sides have agreed to accelerate the process of clarification and confirmation of the LAC along the India China foundary.

Changes in employment and immigration laws by the U.K.

1976. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the UK is contemplating to effect sweeping changes in its employment and immigration laws to flush out around 5,00,000 illegal immigrants from the country;

(b) whether Indians constitute a large share of this illegal immigrant workforce; and

(c) if so, what steps Government proposes to take to solve the problems to be faced by the Indian immigrant community in UK?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) British Home Secretary introduced a White Paper entitled "Secure Borders, Safe Haven—Integration with Diversity in Modern Britain" on February 7, 2002 setting out comprehensive measures to reform nationality, immigration and asylum policy in the U.K.

(b) According to available information, Indians do not constitute a significant share of illegal immigrant work force in U.K.

(c) The Government do not foresee any serious problems for the Indian community on account of the proposed changes in the Immigration Laws in U.K.